

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 19, 2005. Claims 1-6, 8-28, and 30-57 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 12, 23, 34, 45, and 48 are in independent form. Claims 7 and 29 have been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein. Claims 1, 8-10, 12, 23, 30-32, 34, 45, 48, and 57 have been amended to define Applicant's invention more clearly. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that Claims 7-22, 29-44, and 48-56 include allowable subject matter would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 7 and 29 have been canceled, and the essential subject matter of Claims 7 and 29 has been incorporated into independent Claims 1, 23, and 45. (Please note that non-essential subject matter in Claims 1, 23, and 45 has been deleted to provide Applicant with a more complete scope of protection.) Additionally, independent Claims 12, 34, and 48 have been amended to be in independent form. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the independent claims in the present application, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

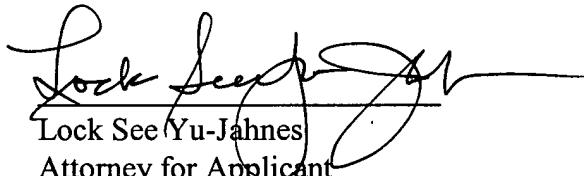
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

No petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action is deemed necessary for the present Amendment. If, however, such a petition is required to make this Amendment timely filed, then this paper should be considered such a petition and the

Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite petition fee to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Lock See Yu-Jahnes  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 38,667

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3801  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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